Target for removing illiteracy in colliery areas

6245. CHAUDHARY HARMOHAN SINGH:

SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the illiteracy percentage is higher in Colliery areas; and

(b) the target fixed by Government for removing illiteracy during the last three years and the extent to which these targets have been achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Illiteracy percentage is quite high in many colliery areas.

(b) The primary responsibility of providing educational facilities lies with the State Governments. Coal India Limited on its part continue to provide financial and other assistance to privately managed schools and colleges located in the coalfields areas so that they continue to serve the wards of the colliery employees. The year 1992-93 was dedicated by CIL to achieve 100 per cent functional and meaningful literacy amongst its employees and their family members by launching a literacy drive. To achieve the desired results the literacy drive has been extended upto 15-8-94.

Illegal export of coal

6246. SHRI AHMED MOHMEDBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "Coal export regularisation urged" which appeared in the Hindustan Times dated 11th March, 1994;

(b) if so, whether coal is illegally exported to Bangladesh from Jayanti hill coal mines;

(c) whether a large quantity of coal is being exported to Bangladesh which is not accounted for because in the absence of a scientific measurement more than 10 metric tonnes of coal are passed on to the other side and then off-loaded there for the benefit of importer of Bangladesh;

(d) if so, wheher it has also been reported that customs official make about Rs. 70,000 per day and the Police Department is also collecting Rs. 100 per truck from each exporter;

(e) whether any enquiry has been conducted; and

(f) if so, what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of Meghalaya have informed that local tribals are undertaking coal mining operations in Meghalaya claiming such mining as their traditional and customary rights. According to information furnished by Government of Meghalaya, coal is being exported to Bangladesh from Meghalaya by these persons after decanalisation of coal exports from July, 1991. The exporters are required to obtain export licence/ Code Number from the Central Government|Reserve Bank of India apart from no objection cetificate from the State Government.

(c) to (f) Ministry of Coal has no information regarding these allegations made in the Hindustan Times dated 11-3-1994 regarding the custom irregularities.

Loss suffered by CIL due to illegal mining

6247. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:

SHRI PRAMOD MOHAJAN:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 177 and Unstarred Question 3623 given in the Rajya Sabha on 7-3-94 and 18-4-94 respectively and to state the